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Abraham Lincoln's Way.

From the address delivered by George Bancroft before Congress on Lincoln's Birthday, 1906.

Lincoln gained a name by discussing questions which, of all others, most easily lead to fanaticism; but he was never carried away by enthusiastic zeal, never indulged in extravagant language, never hurried to support extreme measures, never allowed himself to be controlled by sudden impulses.

He never sought to electrify the community by taking an advanced position with a banner of opinion. Truth he would receive from any one, but when impressed by others he did not use their opinions till by reflection he had made them thoroughly his own.

The Exploiting of a Rival.

Mr. BRYAN, who has been reduced to such expedients for repeating his views on public questions as announcements by obscure district committeemen that on a certain day he would strike a keynote and formally present himself as a candidate for President, is unaffectedly pleased with the space he fills as a rival of President ROOSEVELT in Secretary TAFT's speech at Columbus.

Mr. BRYAN is in politics what that homopent insect the cicada is in nature. He is in full cry most of the time, but has this advantage over the cicada, that he can talk all the year round, while the harvest fly is limited to the dog days. Mr. BRYAN allows that he finds provocation in Secretary TAFT's speech for an extended reply. "I shall take up his allusions to myself," says Mr. BRYAN, "and then there will be some mighty interesting reading."

Secretary TAFT surprised all his friends except President ROOSEVELT, who can't abide Mr. BRYAN, by devoting 1,200 words of his speech to a contrast between the two men as reformers, very much to the disadvantage of Mr. BRYAN. Mr. TAFT's text was the complaint of the Democratic radical that the Republican radical had stolen his thunder. We are not concerned with the reasons the Secretary gave for regarding the Democrat as a pinchbeck reformer and his chief as the genuine, unalloyed article. What interests us is the motive of Mr. TAFT in logging Mr. BRYAN from his cave of silence and presenting him as the acknowledged leader of the Democratic party. Why did the Secretary advertise the unreluctant and unofficial tribune of the people so liberally? At first blush, what explanation so plausible as that Mr. ROOSEVELT in whose mind the taunts of Mr. BRYAN had long rankled, desired to post him as a pretender and the good natured Secretary was willing to speak Mr. ROOSEVELT's piece for him?

But the reason perhaps goes much deeper and will not flatter Mr. BRYAN's self-esteem. Mr. ROOSEVELT has seen his pretentious rival overwhelmingly beaten at the polls, and the second time, when he ran himself for Vice-President, apparently forever extinguished as a candidate. If Mr. ROOSEVELT could dictate the Democratic nominee for President as well as the Republican he would confidently name Mr. BRYAN as the opponent of his favorite Cabinet officer. Full and pointed recognition of that gentleman as the paramount Democrat by Mr. TAFT in a keynote speech would not be bad politics; on the contrary, to advertise Mr. BRYAN, even in uncompromising terms, as long as it was done without heat, would be a help to him in his campaign for the coveted nomination. Thus the fixing of Mr. BRYAN in the public eye by the Secretary as the public eye of "My Policies," after a conference with the supreme politician at Oyster Bay, can be accounted for.

Convinced that Mr. BRYAN would be "easy," Mr. ROOSEVELT picks him as the desirable Democratic candidate.

Marriage With Deceased Wife's Sister Will Be Valid in England.

It is now certain that the bill legalizing marriage in England with a deceased wife's sister will soon become a law, as, in spite of the earnest opposition of the Archbishop of Canterbury, it passed on August 23 the committee stage in the House of Lords. It is true that once before (1886) a similar bill was sanctioned by the Peers mainly through the influence of King EDWARD VII., then Prince of Wales, but at that date the House of Commons, which on other occasions had favored the measure, threw it out. Always before, however, the project had been introduced by a private member, and the supporters of the Ministry for the time being were thus left at liberty to vote as they pleased. In this instance the bill, being brought forward by the Bannerman Government, is certain to be accepted by the lower house of Parliament.

Thus ends in triumph an agitation which has gone on in England for nearly three-quarters of a century, or ever since Lord LYNBURN, then Lord Chancellor, procured in 1835 the enactment of the law which bears his name. That law declared valid all existing marriages with the sisters of deceased wives, but made future unions of the kind illegal.

The statute has caused a great deal of hardship and unhappiness, it having been computed that, under it, many thousands of children have been born "illegitimate." As time went on, the unreasonableness of the prohibition became generally recognized by English Dissenters, and even by a good many lay members of the Church of England, while most of the British colonies refused to follow the example of the mother country in this particular.

The consequence of this conflict of laws was that a British subject might contract a marriage in Australia which would be valid there, but would become illegal if he brought his wife and children to England. If he left property in Australia his children could inherit it, but if his property were situated in England they could obtain it only by will. With the object of removing the grievance complained of by colonials, the British Government not long ago modified the Lyndhurst law by providing that a marriage with a deceased wife's sister performed in a British colony should, if valid there, be valid also in the parent State. The natural effect of the amendment was to point out a method of evading the objectionable statute. If an Englishman and a deceased wife's sister desired to marry, all they needed to do was to have the ceremony celebrated during a brief sojourn in one of the colonies, after which they were at liberty to return home with the assurance that the union would be legal there as well.

Under the circumstances it soon came to be deemed an absurdity that a remnant of the Lyndhurst act should have been suffered to remain upon the statute book. The bill now about to be enacted not only repeals the old law, but making all future marriages with deceased wives' sisters lawful, but has a retroactive effect, legalizing also all such unions as have taken place since 1835. The only vestige of the Lyndhurst act that will remain is the provision that property which may have changed hands under it shall not be disturbed.

The Lyndhurst law has brought about during the three-quarters of a century that it has kept a place upon the statute book many a romance in real life, and more than one novel has turned upon it. The law itself had a sentimental origin. If there is ground for the current belief that Lord LYNBURN framed it out of a desire to oblige a great nobleman who had married a deceased wife's sister and wished to remove the possibility of a cloud on the legitimacy of her offspring. This the Tory Chancellor managed to do by providing that all marriages of the kind celebrated before the act of 1835 should be lawful, only those performed afterward being pronounced invalid. Thus was a social magnate gratified, while at the same time the minimum of offense was given to the prejudices of the Anglican prelates and clergy.

The motive impelling the Anglican Church and its founder, HENRY VIII., to declare unlawful a kind of marriage which was and is perfectly valid in the Church of Rome is sufficiently obvious. CATHERINE of Aragon in marrying HENRY VIII. married the brother of her deceased husband. If that marriage was lawful HENRY had no cause for divorce. To leave himself at liberty to marry ANNE BOLEYN he had to assert the principle that marriage with a deceased wife's sister or a deceased husband's brother, which was forbidden in Judea by the Levitical law, was unlawful in England also.

The Picture Postal Card.

The picture or souvenir postal card is probably doing more to make the world known to the untraveled than all the geographies and gazetteers. There is scarcely a village anywhere in the domain of the Postal Union that has not had its picture taken for a postal card impression in black or white or in colors, and thus its humble fame has been carried over seas and introduced to the four corners of the Union. All the aliens and prodigal sons cannot return for the Old Home week celebrations, but thanks to the man who invented the picture postal card, they may be reminded of the old home scenes at an expenditure of a few cents.

A manufacturing firm in Newark reports that in one week 1,500 picture postals were left at the establishment for the employees. These cards were passed from bench to bench to be admired, and the practice interfered so much with the work to be done that the firm notified its employees that no more of their mail could be received on the premises. An insurance company, a shoe shop and a corset factory in Newark had to make the same rule.

The sale of one cent stamps to put on these picture cards has become enormous. So congested have the mails become with them that the carriers in many cities are days behind in their deliveries. The vacation post offices are swamped. Thousands of cards never reach their destination. It is not to be supposed that they are abstracted from the mails, for nothing could be cheaper than specimens of the new art. We suspect that the overburdened and distraught sorters in the railway post office cars sometimes lose a bundle of cards in sheer desperation by design. Flesh and blood cannot withstand the pictorial deluge. It is wonderful that the faithful servants who have to face the ever mounting combers of two-fifteen souvenirs retain their sanity.

In cities of the first class the post office clerks handle thousands of the cards every day. The transportation and delivery of them has become an embarrassing question. It would not be surprising if Congress were asked to increase a service made "groggy" by the extra work which the habit causes. We should like to know how much the Department is ahead of the game by the sale of one cent stamps to carry the cards. In a day when it has a deficit to report it cannot afford to discourage such a development of popular art. There are so many new varieties of picture cards designed every day that if the fashion continues to advance by leaps and bounds it may not be long before the Post Office Department will be self-supporting in spite of the immense sums paid to the railroads for transportation.

Every cross roads store now has a case full of the picture postals; they are a part of the equipment of every summer hotel; on the trains they sell in sets; in the larger cities they are the sole stock of some of the stores; the street pedler makes a living out of them; they are the continuous chain between the vacationists and the stay at homes; albums are filled with them by the artistic as well as by the sentimental; they flood the land with a mighty tide of color; the works of the old masters, the conceits of comic artists, the solicitations of the advertising tribe, everything pictorial that may hit the popular taste or fill "a long felt want" is now exploited by the cheap and convenient postal card, which at the same time may carry a message or a salutation from the sender on the address as well as on the picture side. There is a great subject for the industrial literary hack in the rise and spread of the illustrated postal card. In time it will have a literature of its own.

No Rescue for the Gal.

Georgia has hardly ceased her jubilation over the passage and signature of a prohibition liquor law, a measure apparently desired by the great majority of voters, when a new channel is opened for the forbidden strong waters. An amendment to the general tax act supported by Dry and Wet with equal readiness reads as follows:

"Upon every club, corporation, or association of persons, who shall keep, or permit to be kept, in any room, or place, or any place or any room connected therewith, directly or indirectly, in which members of such club, association or corporation frequent or assemble, any intoxicating liquors, the sum of \$300.

"Provided nothing in this section shall be construed to license or permit any intoxicant or liquors in any place now prohibited by law or which shall hereafter be prohibited by law."

The anti-prohibitionists hold that under the provisions of the amendment "Dew Drop Inn" clubs will be organized in every town, the lockers loaded with various kinds of hot and rebellious stuff, and that prohibition will be turned into license. Negro clubs will also be organized and so another of the great purposes of the prohibition act will be defeated. On the other hand the prohibitionists maintain that the amendment enables the State to know where intoxicants are kept and to keep a watch on such places. Whatever be the value of prohibition the means of enforcing it in places of considerable size are often inadequate because there is not weight of public opinion behind them; and in the changing mood of Legislatures, now severely virtuous and now amiably indulgent, a law to nullify a law is common enough.

Whatever be the intent or effect of the amendment in question, we cannot agree with an esteemed correspondent in Atlanta who writes us that "the Gal at the Fountain, who still retains her robe of mourning, will become the Queen of Clubs." Only as the gem and ornament of a public gallery, open to all the world and admired by millions, a queen of hearts, can the Gal have her proper site and station. To shut her up in a clubroom would be to spoil her beauty. Far better to destroy her at once, leaving unutilized and undiminished the memory of a glorious vision, of another illustrious masterpiece vanished from the eyes of men, than to lock her up in a locker room, ill lighted, scanty, where men come not to feast upon beauty but to guzzle furtively and meanly.

Sir Roger Tuckernuck.

Nothing nettles the Hon. HENRY CAROT LODGE so much as the taunt that he is a boss or a drill master. Guide, counselor and altruistic friend of the Republican party in Massachusetts, he is a "glutton of the limelight," and only the prompter's timely call to duty summons him from the shadows of the wings. If he has anything to do with the wording of the party resolutions in a State convention, it is as *amicus curiae* and not as a partisan. If the question is one of a nomination, his voice is heard diffidently from the background after others have spoken and he can no longer remain silent. Nothing is more painful to him than self-assertion. His is the wisdom consulted as a last resort. He knows that the meek inherit Senatorships and stand before kings; Mr. LODGE never has to do with mean men. Imagine his gratitude, then, as he heard himself presented to a sympathetic audience at Wonderland Park, Boston, by President JOSEPH MONETTE of the Franco-American Club in the following terms:

"I desire now to introduce Sir ROGER TUCKERNUCK, our kaiser, our sovereign, our master, our emperor, our dictator, our boss. I call him these names to make sure you will know of whom I am talking. Our friends on the other side have called him so many names recently that I fear if I called him HENRY CAROT LODGE you would not understand to whom I refer. But if they say the senior Senator exercises too much influence on the party organization and arbitrarily decides the course they are away off from the truth, and they know it well."

Of course they do, the minions, the varlets, the myrmidons! Ask the wild waves that beat on the sands of Tuckernuck, the lesser Nantucket, where Mr. LODGE meditates in the summer solstice upon the splendor of his services to the State and the peridy and ingratitude of common men. Sir ROGER TUCKERNUCK—sly and delightful touch of mingled pride and reverence! Not unpleasing to a pillar of State deep on whose front engraven deliberation sits and public care.

Let there be no more flings and gibes at unconscious eminence and modest unaffected worth! Let there be a clean campaign in Massachusetts! As Governor GUILD, deprecating levity, says, a truce to mud slinging!

A Paradise for Scorchers.

What to do with the scorching automobilists is suggested by the report which the *Matin* correspondent accompanying the De Dion cars in the race from Pekin to Paris makes. He says that they used no less than 342 carts between the Chinese capital and the Ural Mountains and that "the victims invariably made the sign of the cross and commended their souls to God."

the victims who survived the impact, we suppose.

Scorchers will almost die with envy when they read the news: No speed limit, no meddling constables, no rule of the road or rights of horsemen, or ox men, or camel men, or more pedestrians to consider; nothing to do but scorch, nothing to hit that can hit back, all kinds of odd vehicles and traps and old guys of peasants and holy men to run into and toss aside, and no back talk, only pious genuflections and gratitude for lives casually spared!

What scorchers with sporting blood in their veins but would want to have such rare fun, such an intoxicating experience. Somewhere east of Buea in the wilds of Asia is obviously the Scorchers' Paradise, and there they should be deported with their machines to the time of their lives. The automobilist who regards the rights of others and his folk and friends in the society of his folk and friends while tooling along a macadam road at the legal rate of speed will wish the scorchers in Asia no worse luck than an uprising of the peasantry with blood in its eye.

General JACOB S. COX, who led the Commonwealthers to Washington and the grass in 1894, is about to lead another army in a private train. It is the misfortune of a thinker to be always untimely. In 1894 he was too advanced. In 1907 he is altogether too slow.

The latest author to get well advertised by his books being excluded from a public library is HORTON ALOP, Jr.—Atlanta Constitution.

Mr. ALGER is certainly the late, if not the latest. How can he have offended the censor of literary morality? Mr. Thomas Dyer's edifying "History of Sandford and Merton" will be thrown out of the libraries next, but perhaps it is no longer found in any of them.

If it be true that Mayor STURLEY of New Haven has proposed a canonade for the purpose of milking the clouds, his state of "culture" is no credit to a university city. Only the anointed chief has the legitimate right to make rain.

The boy Mayor of Milwaukee has an offer of \$1,500 a week to go on the stage—*Minneapolis Journal*.

TOM JOHNSON of Cleveland and Fitts of Boston must look to their laurels.

The Hon. JAMES S. VARDAMAN continues to asseverate that he does not feel the sting of defeat. He is chock full of sympathy and of pity.

"With all my heart I sympathize with the striking operators. Their cause I believe to be a just one, and I pray God that they may succeed."

In some Mississippi towns other sympathizers have shut up Western Union offices and made the managers flee. Why not? Corporations have no rights and a certain summariness of proceedings against them gratifies decent citizens.

A story comes from Utica that two young women saved a train on the Mohawk and Malone Railroad by flagging it with red and white handkerchiefs. The tradition is that special provisions of this kind are accomplished with a red petticoat, showing how unconventional a woman may become when human life depends upon her initiative. The Utica story in deviating from precedent gains the appearance of truth.

Reason implies patience.—Governor HUGHES.

But if a man be endowed with a hair trigger, rapid fire mind, how can patience be expected of him?

It is joyous and refreshing to hear Mr. BRYAN, that stern apostle of the straightest sect of States rights men, crying out against centralization. Mr. BRYAN has grand centralization plans of his own, but they must not be confused with those of the opposition. In his shop, in his office, in the office of the great conservative Mr. BRYAN, reminds one of Mr. JEREMIAH FLINTWICK, a peculiarity of whose temper was that he wouldn't be swallowed alive.

A summary just published by the French African committee shows the rapidity with which the French are extending knowledge of all the conditions and life of the Sahara. The list is confined to the southern part of the desert between the Niger and Lake Chad, in the vast region of the military territory of the Niger, whose seat of government is Timbuktu. These men sent out over this region last year, each party numbering from thirty to sixty men traveling on mule or swift camels. The primary purpose was, as with all these French enterprises, to confirm and strengthen the French occupancy of the country. It is of more general interest, however, that a number of men attached to all the French Saharan expeditions are qualified to make accurate route surveys, to determine geographical positions and to collect scientific information. This praiseworthy policy is constantly widening our knowledge of the Sahara.

The routes traversed in this southern territory last year passed through long stretches of country that had never before been seen. The region between Gao on the Niger and Agades, the chief town of the mountainous district of Air, was crossed by the French for the first time. Some centres of population that have never been recorded on any map were discovered. Permanent military stations were established at two points. Although the French have subjected nearly all the Tuareg robbers of the desert some of these bandit bands are still at large, and one of them, on a camel-sledding foray, last summer was found and punished.

It is creditable to the Government that all the geographical and other scientific results of these journeys are published as soon as the complete reports and the maps illustrating them are prepared. We shall not have to wait long for the maps and detailed accounts of last year's researches in this little known field.

The Hearing of the Tallest Sky-scraper.

To the EDITOR OF THE SUN—Sir: Out of my office window I watch the great Singer Building going up and up. Brood Solomon's temple, they tell us, was built without the sound of hammer or human voice.

Greater is the accomplishment of the Singer Building artists. Sound of course you cannot use donkey engines and drive rivets without sound. But it is all lost in the melody of notes that rise from Broadway.

Wonderful to the lay mind, at least, is this uprising pile of steel, stone, terra cotta and brick. It grows before one's eyes. Consider the genius of its architect and its engineers. No hail, no replacement of material, no hesitation (unless a strike impedes); just one continuous systematic plan, worked out patiently and swiftly.

New York, August 25.

A Ghently Charge.

Kaicker—The President got the Pilgrims and Puritans mixed.

Becker—Probably a plot on their part to discredit him.

THE NATION'S SWORN DEFENDER.

Mr. Roosevelt and the Veteran With Five Hundred Shares of Stock.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—Sir: An illustration of how completely the President fails to appreciate the business and financial situation for which many of us believe him to be mainly responsible in my own case is cited as one of thousands.

Age 63, raised in New England, served more than three years in the War of the Rebellion, wounded and mustered out in 1864. Since that time I have endeavored to conduct myself as a good citizen should, working steadily and accumulating a few dollars, which from time to time have been invested in stocks, both railway and industrial, to the extent of nearly 500 shares, from which a small income is derived. With this income and my current earnings it has been possible to support my family in comfort and educate my children up to the present time.

Since that time I have endeavored to conduct myself as a good citizen should, working steadily and accumulating a few dollars, which from time to time have been invested in stocks, both railway and industrial, to the extent of nearly 500 shares, from which a small income is derived. With this income and my current earnings it has been possible to support my family in comfort and educate my children up to the present time.

It seems to me to be due to the talk and the actions of the President in declaring war on corporations generally.

The popularity he has gained among people with socialist tendencies has stimulated all the tin horn politicians, especially in the South and West, to emulate or excel him.

He has started the ball rolling, and who can stop it?

The newspapers to-day state that the books of the Pennsylvania Railroad show more than 47,000 stockholders. How many of them are thieves?

Apparently the President recognizes but two classes of people in our country, the malefactors with swollen fortunes and what are generally called the laboring classes, more particularly the labor unionists. The former he would crucify and the latter he would cater to.

How many of either class can be found among the 47,000 stockholders of the Pennsylvania Railroad? It is an appalling situation that this great country should be the mercy of a headstrong man who never earned a dollar except as an officeholder.

NEW YORK, August 24.

Bryan, Roosevelt, Taft, La Follette.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—Sir: Referring to the editorial in the SUN on "Forces of Conservatism," permit me to suggest that the parties named are not equally conservative. Their conservatism appears to be in nearly the inverse order in which your editorial names them.

Mr. Roosevelt's policy would leave the title of the railroad in the names of the corporations, would require the rich stockholders to furnish the necessary capital for extensions and betterments, the national and State commissions to have absolute power to fix the charges to be made for transportation of passengers and freight, and with no appeal to courts from the commissions' decisions. In the end, should a profit be derived by the rich stockholder, it could be taken from him through income and inheritance taxes.

Mr. Taft indorses Mr. Roosevelt's policy entire. In his Columbus speech he indicates how all the accumulations of past years—by the Rockefeller-Harriman class—may be recouped to the people.

The State Legislatures have complete control of what shall be done with a man's property on his death. He has no right to leave it by will, and his children or heirs have no right to receive it which the President Johnson of Louisiana would have the States to reform his remedy the danger of too great accumulation of wealth in one hand by controlling the descent and devolution of property, and their own consciences.

As Mr. Taft admitted in an interview that his speech was very long, it is fair to assume that a statement of such transcendent possibilities was incorporated for a purpose.

Senator La Follette, wisely or otherwise, summarizes the legislation of his State—the Legislature of Wisconsin—by enacting a public utility law giving to the Railroad Commission the right to grant franchises for operation public utility corporations in cities where such franchises are not already held. These companies now hold exclusive franchises from the Legislature, some of which franchises have been litigated and the legality of same sustained by the Supreme Court of the State. But the public utility act practically prohibits opposition companies in cities where no franchises are already held. The act also requires the public utility corporation to surrender its property to the city on demand, and at a price to be fixed by the commission. Companies accepting franchises under this act are specifically required to waive their right to a verdict by a jury in determining the compensation to be given for their property.

It seems to the writer that so far as Mr. Bryan is concerned, the more he says the more he is far more conservative than any of the parties previously named. He proposes that the national and State governments shall acquire the railroads, and as he does not suggest any special mode of doing so, it may be assumed that he would proceed in the usual way through condemnation proceedings, and with prices to be fixed through an appraisement by competent and disinterested parties. If labor unionists are to be free to do as they please, would not the Government bonds upon which interest payments would be assured, if not from operation of the roads, then from taxation?

It seems to the writer that the more conservative to be classed with the others.

EMERSON MCILLIN.

NEW YORK, August 24.

Roosevelt, Taft and the Socialists.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—Sir: Mr. Taft's speech at Columbus suggests the question of the right the United States has to "hunk below the level of a South American republic."

No amount of verbiage can alter the fact that "my policies" have put a torch to the American Republic. The President's policy, nor that the basis of rate regulation is the Sherman anti-trust act, which Justice White of the United States Supreme Court declared to be "destructive of government, of organized society, of the principle on which organized society depends."

Now, Jeremy Bentham proclaimed that in law and politics the final court of appeal is the public good; yet since 1861 legislative interference with the natural laws of trade has caused shrinkings in the value of property of the United States amounting to \$10,000,000,000, or three times the cost to the North of the civil war.

The London Morning Post affirms that "Mr. Roosevelt is developing socialism against conservatism in the United States; is leading the masses against the classes." *Le Temps* of Paris says: "It is impossible to understand why President Roosevelt is trying to destroy the financial credit of his country." *La Libre Parole*, speaking of his "devastating career," names him a second "Attila, the Scourge of God."

Now Mr. Taft has played Mark Antony to Roosevelt's Caesar. "And under my genius is rebuked." Because we have had Roosevelt the Great must we now have Roosevelt the Little? Must we have a second Caesar?

As Mr. Taft has become a protagonist of Rooseveltism, the Board of Simplified Spelling should begin his name with a D.

LESLIE CHASE.

ATLANTIC CITY, August 23.

Roosevelt and Professor Lounsbury.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—Sir: Mr. Theodore Roosevelt, the power of the hour, a contribution to the current issue of *Everybody's*, referring to the makers and readers of "nature facts" books, says: "These worthless persons vividly call to mind Professor Lounsbury's comment on 'the infinite capacity of the human brain to withstand the introduction of knowledge.'"

Business men throughout the country, or rather the world, after reading President Theodore Roosevelt's speech at Providence

town will be in perfect accord with Professor Lounsbury.

NEW YORK, August 24.

L. A. G.

Roosevelt and the Farmer Who Harnessed His Own Barn.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—Sir: I do not know of any way for this to reach the President's eye unless it is through the rays of THE SUN. We have all admired and praised him so much that he has acquired a swollen head, and cannot see that in carrying out his ideas he is ruining the country. He is like the farmer that was troubled with bees in his barn. Determined to get rid of them, he burned the barn. This was what Roosevelt is doing in order to rid the country of some troublesome trusts. He has put the torch to the prosperity of the country, and still that big head of his prevents him from seeing the impending disaster.

Can't something be done to stop him? We never had a President that took so much upon himself. Can't Congress stop him before the final crash comes?

NANTUCKET, Mass., August 24.

Bryan, Roosevelt, Hearst.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—Sir: I am much pained at the disposition to create the impression that our President has adopted the views of William J. Bryan. I regard this view as the greatest injustice to the President, greater to Mr. Bryan, and still greater to yet another. The time may have been when Mr. Roosevelt was an unconscious disciple and exponent of Bryanism, but he has advanced far beyond that. His unearthing of a domestic conspiracy capitalized at \$2,000,000 and a later worldwide plot, capital unlimited, makes him distinctly outclass Bryan, and his recent appeals to class hatred with his lurid tirades about malefactors of great wealth put him far beyond Bryan in the eyes of the W. B. Hearst class. "That worthy will be to bestir himself if he expects to hold place as the most radical of the radicals in the face of the further advances the strenuous one makes in the path that leads to socialism and economic chaos."

H. L. CLARK.

WASHINGTON, Pa., August 23.

Egomaniac.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—Sir: In his very remarkable book "Degeneration" Dr. Nordau differentiates many forms of deviation from mental normality. Among these abnormalities is one that Nordau calls "egomaniac." A person afflicted with this peculiar condition may be quite harmless, and may not display any tendency to be violent. Hence an egomaniac, as such, need not be put under restraint so far as the bodily safety of those persons with whom he comes in contact is concerned.

If an egomaniac is a person of no importance he is negligible except in so far as he is annoying; but if he is a person clothed with authority he may be very dangerous to all who come in contact with him.

The essence of egomaniac is a belief entertained by the afflicted person that any one who does not agree with him is either wholly an imbecile or wholly a knave.

There is a law protecting a will from fraudulent incursions and attacks, provided ample notice has been given to "next friends" and eligible contestants by the testator. The will must be made and signed in the presence of witnesses.

Those legally entitled to file objections could be so notified and the specified time or be debarred from any further claim against the estate. This would enable the testator to defend himself in his lifetime. The advantages are obvious and need no comment.

NEW YORK, August 25.

B. S. ORSON.

THE EDDY SUIT FIASCO.

It suggests a Plan to Contest Will Before Death.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—Sir: The ignominious collapse of the suit against Mrs. Mary Baker G. Eddy by her "next friends" furnishes an instructive example of what would be the result if the next of kin and "next friends" were compelled to bring to a crucial test before a testator's death his legal right to dispose of his estate.